

Submitted by:  
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## Impact of the Community Development Block Grant on Carnegie

Let me first give you very brief background information about me. My term of office began January 2004. I have been president since August 2004.

Carnegie has applied for and been the recipient of CDBG funds over a period of thirty years. Borough records are sketchy prior to 1989.

The grants fall into two main categories: Safety and recreation.

### Safety

- Handicap access includes:  
Ramps, curb cuts, walkway at Carnegie Park, Park rest rooms, elevator at Carnegie Library. All these were required as a result of the American Disability Act that mandated handicap accessibility.
- Retaining walls (4)  
Two walls were needed to prevent the road from falling onto the business patrons' parking lot below. Businesses would suffer and the growth of the commercial area would be stifled.  
One wall was needed to prevent the road collapsing onto the homes below  
One wall was needed to prevent the entire road from collapsing thereby closing off the only exit/entry to the road.
- Catch basins were needed at the radius of curbs to permit installation of handicapped ramps
- Concrete steps with rail replaced deteriorated wood steps and rail. The steps are needed for residents from the hill to access the town by foot. The grade of the hill is greater than 15%
- Demolition of structures  
The old municipal building was badly impacted by the flood of Sept. 17, 2004. As I speak demolition work continues. Before demolition, the asbestos problem was addressed.  
Five old abandoned buildings were razed or will soon be razed
- Chartiers Creek channel slope was corrected in 1999. The problems that exist in the Creek flooding are complex. The 52 mile Creek flows downhill to Carnegie. No laws prevent upstream communities from degrading land for residential and

commercial development. The channel slope correction helped until hurricane Ivan struck on Sept. 17, 2004 with disastrous results.

- Storm and Sanitary sewers work. The Consent Order for Carnegie wherein storm and sanitary sewer water must be separated will cost Carnegie over one million dollars for the three stages outlined in the Consent Order. In old communities such as Carnegie, emergency sewer problems occur with regularity.
- Road construction. (1). One Busway stop and parking lot of the Parking Authority of Allegheny County necessitated that Arch Street be in good condition

The second category of projects relate to Recreation.

### **Recreation**

- Multipurpose athletic field
- Park lighting
- Park pavilion
- Hockey Pad
- Volley Ball court
- Picnic shelter and tables
- Park restroom renovations

Carnegie is grateful for the grants, much needed in an old community. In year 32, this present year, five grants are pending. The total of all grants, both granted and pending is \$1,943,118. The total of all grants, both granted and pending is \$328,573. If grants pending are included, Carnegie received approximately 17% of the grant money applied for.